(3) Long-term loan assistance to the extent of cost of planting and maintenance upto maturity from Banks operating under NABARD's programme. Three per cent interest on such loans availed by the growers owning upto 5 hectares of rubber in traditional areas and to all growers in non-traditional areas being paid by the Board.

Export of Mangoes

1919. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a heavy demand of Indian mangoes in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the quantity and types of mangoes exported during the last three years, yearwise;

(c) the foreign exchange earned thereon;

(d) the details of mangoes likely to be exported during the current year indicating the names of the countries; and

(e) whether Government propose to expulore new markets for its export and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (e) Alphanso, Neelam, Totapuri, Chausa etc. are the varieties of mangoes in great demand abroad. Details of exports of Indian mangoes during the last three years are as under:—

Year	(MTs) Quantity	(Rs lakh) Value
1989-90** . .	12008	1675
1990-91* . .	19380	3122
1991-92** . .	25000	3600

Source: **APEDA
*DGCIS

During the current year these mangoes are likely to be exported to UAE, S. Arabia, UK, Bahrain, Qatar, France, Netherlands Germany etc. Exploring new markets for exports is a continuous process. Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) endeavours to explore new markets through participation in International Trade Fairs Organisation of buyer-seller meets etc.

Issuance of EXIM Scrips on Bogus Realisation Certificates

1920. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports had recently, come across a number of cases where EXIM Scrips worth crores of rupees were issued on bogus realisation certificates;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the parties involved; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Some cases have been detected where EXIM scrips were issued based on documents subsequently found to be forged. Three Exim scrips were suspended/cancelled. The matter has been reported to the police for appropriate action. Further Exim Scrip scheme has since been discontinued.

Tea Production at Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

1921. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of tea in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh is low as compared to other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the contribution of C.S.I.R. and other concerned organistations in improving its yield; and

(d) what other steps are being contemplated to improve the production of tea at Kangra?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The factors attributed to the low production are over aged bushes, low bush population irregular field practices, shortage of Labour, worn out and inadequate processing machineries resulting in poor quality of tea, small size of holdings, etc.

(c) C.S.I.R. had set up a hill tea division at Palampur in 1984 for conducting research for development of good clones, evolving package of practices for tea cultivation, imparting training to small growers and organising demonstration in farmer fields.

As regards other concerned organisations in improving their tea production, the Tea Experimental Station in Palampur run by Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalaya with financial assistance from Tea Board is engaged in conducting adaptive research activities towards idenitfying clones suited to Himachal Pradesh, evolving package of practices for cultivation of tea and demonstration at the farmer fields for improving their productivity. The University has reelased 2 clones found suitable for commercial cultivation in Himachal Pradesh.

Besides, Department of Industries, Government of Himachal Pradesh has been engaged in motivating the small growers to adopt tea cultivation and to rejuvenate and consolidate their existing tea areas. The Department has also set up tea nurseries with assistance from Tea Board for distribution of plants to the small growers. Apart from this, the Department is also supplying the agro-inputs at subsidies cost.

(d) Current status of industry warrants undertaking developmental measures towards demonstration of improved cultural practices, imparitng training to the small growers of improved cultural practices, rejuvenation and consolidation of the existing area. supply of improved planting material at subsidised cost, motivation of small and marginal farmers in switching over to tea from traditional marginal cultivation, improving manufacturing capacity through cooperative sector.

Export of Gems

1922. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of decline in the export of gems during 1990-91 and the percentage of decline in the exports of Gems in 1991-92;

(b) what are the reasons for decline in the exports of Gems stating the names of importing countries, the percentage of decline in export of Gems and foreign exchange earned in each case; and

(c) the measures contemplated by Government to step up increase in the exports of Gems and to export new markets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The export of gems i.e. coloured gemstones (excluding diamonds, pearls and synthetic stones) for the last three years are given as under;